

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #68-10-2 Building Date: 1897

Building Name: Holden-Sweeting House

Location: 4112 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, Maryland

Private/Residential/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The Holden-Sweeting House is a two-and-one-half story frame house which stands on one of the lots of the town of Hyattsville. It is basically square, with asymmetrical gables and bays varying the lines. The main facade is to the south, with entrance in the second bay. The easterly half of the south facade is filled with a two-story projecting semi-octagonal bay. Above the hip roof of the projecting bay, a steeply pitched gable dormer pierces the south plane of the roof; its gable end is decorated with geometric panelling. The entire south facade is sheltered by a one-story hip-roof porch which wraps around and shelters part of the east facade; the principal opening in the porch is surmounted by a steeply pitched pediment ornamented with applied geometric panelling. The house is sheathed with German siding painted gray. The wall surfaces are varied by other details, including pyramidal roof oriel window, and a sleeping porch highlighted by a spindle frieze. The lines of the house are varied by gables and dormers with decorative geometric panelling.

Significance

The Holden-Sweeting House is an excellent example of a suburban cottage with abundant Queen Anne style decorative detail. It stands on part of two lots in Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville, platted in 1882. It was built by Louis J. Holden, in 1897, very likely from a pattern-book design. It is a spacious, frame house whose lines are varied by gables, projecting bays, and an oriel window, and whose surfaces are enlivened by a variety of panelling. A nearly identical house, built on the same design, was erected in Riverdale fifteen years later. In 1905 Holden sold the house to William Wolfe Smith, who soon defaulted on his mortgage. In 1908, his creditors required the sale of the property, "improved by a fine residence, with seven rooms, bath, attic, etc., formerly occupied by William Wolfe Smith"..... in the best residential part of Hyattsville." From 1912 to 1981, this handsome house was the long term home of only two families. It is an outstanding example of a late Queen Anne style suburban cottage. Distinguished by fine decorative details, it probably served as a prototype for the other, slightly smaller, house of the same design in Riverdale. It is a noticeable landmark in the late Victorian residential area of Hyattsville.

Acreage: 10,500 square feet

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Holden House

and/or common Sweeting House

## 2. Location

street & number 4112 Gallatin Street ☐ not for publicationcity, town Hyattsville ☐ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Lester Sweeting

street &amp; number 4112 Gallatin Street telephone no.:

city, town Hyattsville state and zip code MD 20781

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber #5413

street &amp; number Main Street folio 843

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Inventory of Historic Resources

date 1974 ☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records P.G.Co. Historic Preservation Commission, MNCPPC

city, town Upper Marlboro, state Maryland 20772

## 7. Description

Survey No. PG#68-10-2

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Holden-Sweeting House is a two-and-one-half story frame house which stands on one of the lots of the town of Hyattsville. It is distinguished by fine decorative details: an oriel window, projecting bays and porches, and pedimented gables embellished with geometric panelling.

The house is basically square, with asymmetrical gables and bays varying the lines. The main facade is to the south, with entrance in the second bay through a panelled glazed door. In the first (westmost) bay is a small square window which lights the staircase. The upper panel of the door, the transom, and the small window which lights the stair are all filled with fine (new) art glass with a pink floral motif. The easterly half of the principal south facade is filled with a two-story hip-roof projecting semi-octagonal bay; on each story the bay is lighted by three 1/1 double hung sash windows. Above the hip roof of the projecting bay, a steeply pitched gable dormer pierces the south plane of the roof; its gable end is decorated with geometric panelling, and lighted by two small single-pane windows.

The entire south facade is sheltered by a one-story hip-roof porch which wraps around and shelters part of the east facade; the porch is supported by heavy square posts on brick bases which form flattened-arch openings, four on the south facade and two on the east. The railing is composed of solid curved balusters. The westmost principal opening in the porch is surmounted by a steeply pitched pediment ornamented with applied geometric panelling. The high porch is approached by a flight of steps at this principal opening; it rests on a brick foundation, painted magenta, with inset decorative plaques.

The house is sheathed with German siding painted pink. Windows are generally 1/1 double hung sash, with plain board surrounds painted gray. Windows on the main south facade have louvered wood shutters painted a deep magenta. The cornice is boxed and molded and painted gray, and has a deep overhang. The roof is covered with ~~green~~ asbestos shingle, and there is a brick chimney roughly centered at the ridge. The high brick foundation encloses a full basement; entrance to the basement is through a bulkhead on the west side.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. PG#68-10-2

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

The wall surfaces are further varied by other details. In the southmost bay of the west elevation at second story level is a pyramidal-roof oriel window. Its west face is lighted by two 1/1 windows, while its angled north and south facades each have one window. Above and below the windows, the oriel is decorated with inset panels of narrow vertical wainscoting; the oriel is painted gray, with inset panels of pink.

There are panelled gables at third level on the east, north and west facades as well as the main south facade; with the exception of that on the north rear elevation, the gable ends are embellished with a variety of geometric panelling. In the first bay of the east facade, a panelled gable surmounts a second-story sleeping porch which is highlighted by a railing of turned balusters and a spindle frieze. The porch is now enclosed with screen. There is a small gable dormer nearly centered in each of the east and west planes of the roof; each dormer has a molded returned cornice and a single 1/1 window. There is a one-story projecting bay in the northmost bay of the east facade; it is filled with 12/1 double hung sash windows. A small shed-roof porch forms a rear entrance to the kitchen in the westmost bay of the north facade; it has a railing of turned balusters on the west side, and has recently been enclosed with wood lattice painted pink.

The interior of the house consists of four basic spaces. The main south entrance leads into a square stairhall in the southwest quadrant. The closed string three-run staircase begins near the southwest corner, framed by two square panelled newel posts with applied molding and spherical caps. The stair turns and rises along the west wall, then turns again to the east; it has turned balusters and panelled spandrel.

The stairhall leads northward into the kitchen in the northwest space. The opening under the third run of the stairs is built into the panelled spandrel, and framed by square pilasters. A spindle frieze forms a decorative grille between the stairhall and the kitchen. The kitchen has a pressed metal ceiling, with decorative square panels and egg-and-dart border.

A pair of five-panel double doors (which retract into pockets in the wall) leads eastward from stairhall to parlor. There is a false fireplace positioned diagonally in the northeast corner of the parlor; it is fitted with a wooden mantel with tall, classical Revival style colonnettes and

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM  
Description (continued) .

Survey No. PG#68-10-2

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applied ribbon molding on the frieze. Another pair of pocket doors leads from the front parlor into the dining room in the northeast space. This room is enlarged and lighted on the east by a one-story projecting bay; the windows in this bay are fitted with interior shutters which fold and retract into pockets in the wall. Door and window surrounds throughout have multiband molding with bullseye corner blocks.

The house is situated on a town lot fronting directly on Gallatin Street, and bordered on the south by a low privet hedge. The lot is bounded on the west by an alley.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. #68- 10-2

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1897

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Holden-Sweeting House is an excellent example of a suburban cottage with abundant fine Queen Anne style decorative detail. It stands on part of two lots in Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville, platted in 1882.

By the middle of the nineteenth century, Christopher C. Hyatt had purchased property north of Bladensburg at the intersection of the old Washington Baltimore Turnpike and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. He built his brick mansion (no longer standing) on the west side of the railroad, and opened a store directly across the tracks. In 1859, Hyatt was appointed postmaster of the new crossroads community which thenceforth was to bear his name.<sup>1</sup>

In 1873, Hyatt had a section of his property surveyed and platted into building lots roughly 60 by 280 feet. This roughly 20-acre area was known as Hyatts Addition to Hyattsville. By 1878, the town was developing into a desirable place of residence for commuters to the Capital City. An 1878 account describes the new town as follows: "Hyattsville, on the Washington Branch of the Baltimore Ohio Railroad, is a beautiful village, tasteful houses in the modern style of architecture, ornamented with gardens and lawns, is largely indebted, for its prosperity, to Christopher C. Hyatt, ...it has gradually increased in beauty and prosperity until it stands as one of the foremost villages between Baltimore and Washington."<sup>2</sup>

In 1882, George Johnson and Louis Wine purchased 196 acres adjoining the original section of Hyattsville, and undertook the development of what they called "Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville." This section was surveyed and platted by Surveyor George W. Jackson in September 1882, to create approximately 100 building lots (roughly 50 by 150 feet each), two areas of parkland, and street names honoring the developers.<sup>3</sup>

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM  
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. PG#68-10-2

Section 8 Page 2

The subject house was built by Louis J. Holden, a bookbinder, who purchased part of lots 10 and 11 in Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville in 1896. Holden's brother, Frederick A. Holden, had in 1883 built a fine Stick-style frame dwelling on the lots (#32 and 33) which immediately adjoined lots 10 and 11 on the west.<sup>4</sup> Louis Holden built, in 1897, a very different style of dwelling, although of similar size and setting. Louis Holden's house was very likely built from a pattern-book design, although the design has not been identified. It is a spacious, basically square frame house whose lines are varied by gables, projecting bays, and an oriel window, and whose surfaces are enlivened by a variety of panelling. (A nearly identical house, built on the same design, was erected in Riverdale fifteen years later, cf. #68-4b.)

In 1905 Louis Holden and his wife sold their house to William Wolfe Smith. Smith borrowed money from the Hyattsville Building Association to finance his purchase, and soon defaulted on his payments. In 1908, his creditors required the sale of the property. Trustees for the sale announced that the property "improved by a fine residence, with seven rooms, bath, attic, etc., formerly occupied by William Wolfe Smith" would be sold, 6 July 1908, and that the property was "in good condition, and in the best residential part of Hyattsville."<sup>5</sup>

From 1912 to 1981, this handsome house was the long term home of only two families, that of Maurice H. B. Hoffman until 1952, and that of Waters Asay until 1981.<sup>6</sup> It is an outstanding example of a late Queen Anne style suburban cottage. Distinguished by fine decorative details, it probably served as a prototype for the other, slightly smaller, house of the same design in Riverdale. It is a noticeable landmark in the late Victorian residential area of Hyattsville.

Notes

1 Prince George's County Deeds JBB #1:280; JBB #2:481; JBB #4:113,337; CSM #3:476, 477.

2 G. M. Hopkins Atlas of Prince George's County, 1878, "Historical Sketch".

3 Prince George's County Deed JWB #1:244; Prince George's County Plat JWB #1:286, 1882.

4 Prince George's County Deed JWB #38:36; Census for Prince George's County, 1900; Correspondence of The Evening Star, Hyattsville, Maryland, November 3, 1887. cf. also Inventory form P.G. #68-17.

5 Prince George's County Deeds #20:589, #50:268; Prince George's County Equity #3537.

6 Prince George's County Deeds, #63:386; #1556:497.

Survey No. P.G. #68-10-2

Cf. Chain of Title

**Acreage of nominated property** 10,500 square feet  
**Quadrangle name** Washington East, Section E

Tax Map #50, lots #10, 11  
Quadrangle scale 1:24000

[illegible][illegible]

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code
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name/title	Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historian
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organization	Historic Preservation Commission, c/o M-NCPPC	date	September 1987, February
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street & number 4010 CAB telephone 301-952-3521

city or town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

PS-274C



Chain of Title  
Holden-Sweeting House  
P.G. #68-10-2

#5413:843 28 May 1981 Deed	Mary F. Asay to Lester and Sharon Sweeting; west 75 feet of Lots 10 and 11, and west 25 feet of 12 and 13, Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville, (4112 Gallatin Street); same described in #3241:151.
#3241:151 26 November 1965 Deed	J. Edwin Hutchinson et ux and Waters B. Asay to Mary F. Asay, same Hyattsville property described in prior deed.
#3241:149 26 November 1965 Deed	Waters and Mary Asay to J. E. Hutchinson, parts of Lots 10 and 11, and 12 and 13 in Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville, which grantors acquired from Terpay and Hoffman (#1556:497).
#1556:497 10 November 1952 Deed	George and Elizabeth Terpay, trustees of will of Maurice H. B. Hoffman (who died in 1952, cf. Estate file #9950) and Grace Hoffman, widow of decedent, to Waters and Mary Asay.
GSO #2:535 3 July 1951 Will	Testator: Maurice H. B. Hoffman; his real estate (residence at 4112 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville) to wife, Grace for her lifetime; or it should be sold by his executors, his daughter, Elizabeth Terpay, and her husband, George Terpay.
#63:386 13 April 1912 Deed	Jennie B. and Robert W. Wells to M.H.B. and Mary Hoffman; west half of Lots 10 and 11 (in Wine and Johnson's First Addition) which grantors acquired in 1908 by #50:268; and west 25 feet of Lots 12 and 13 bounded by alley which Robert Wells acquired in 1910 by #54:401. (Latimer plat attached).
#50:268 31 December 1908 Deed	Lorenzo Bailey and Fillmore Beall, trustees, to Jennie B. Wells, property which Bailey and Beall received in trust from William W. and Isabelle Smith (cf. Equity #3537 and Deed of Trust #47:131).
#47:131 2 May 1908 Deed of Trust	William W. and Isabelle Smith to Lorenzo Bailey and Fillmore Beall; Smiths are in debt, including \$2,400 loan from the Hyattsville Building Association; therefore, they deed to Bailey and Beall in trust, their property, the west half (75 feet) of lots 10 and 11 and Lots 12 and 13 in Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville.

- 2 -

#3537  
July 1908  
Equity

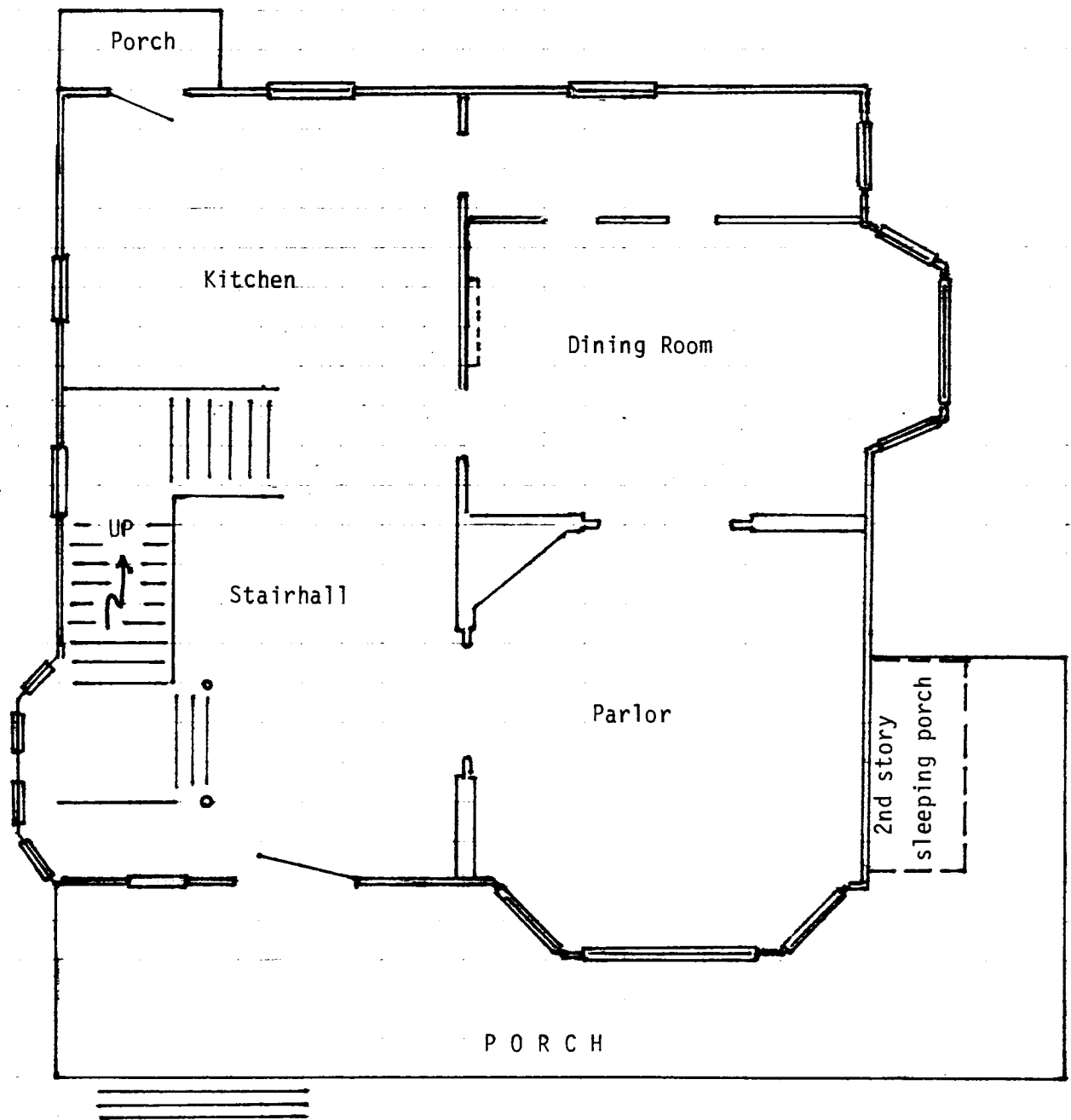
William W. Smith has defaulted on mortgage, and trustees offer for sale, 6 July 1908, at the premises on Ralston Avenue the west half of Lots 10 and 11, and 12 and 13 in Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville, "improved by a fine residence, seven rooms, bath, attic, etc., formerly occupied by William Wolff Smith. Property in good condition, in best residential part of Hyattsville."

#20:589  
31 March 1905  
Deed

Lewis F. and Minnie Holden to William W. and Isabelle Smith, west half of Lots 10 and 11 in Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville, which grantors acquired in 1896 by JWB #38:36.

Holden-Sweeting House

PG#68-10-2



sgpear1 3/88  
(not to scale)

PG#68-10-2

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #68-10-2 Building Date: 1897  
Building Name: Holden-Sweeting House  
Location: 4112 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, Maryland

Private/Residential/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The Holden-Sweeting House is a two-and-one-half story frame house which stands on one of the lots of the town of Hyattsville. It is basically square, with asymmetrical gables and bays varying the lines. The main facade is to the south, with entrance in the second bay. The easterly half of the south facade is filled with a two-story projecting semi-octagonal bay. Above the hip roof of the projecting bay, a steeply pitched gable dormer pierces the south plane of the roof; its gable end is decorated with geometric panelling. The entire south facade is sheltered by a one-story hip-roof porch which wraps around and shelters part of the east facade; the principal opening in the porch is surmounted by a steeply pitched pediment ornamented with applied geometric panelling. The house is sheathed with German siding painted white. The wall surfaces are varied by other details, including pyramidal roof oriel window, and a sleeping porch highlight by a spindle frieze. The lines of the house are varied by gables and dormers with decorative geometric panelling.

Significance

The Holden-Sweeting House is an excellent example of a suburban cottage with abundant Queen Anne style decorative detail. It stands on part of two lots in Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville, platted in 1882. It was built by Louis J. Holden, in 1897, very likely from a pattern-book design. It is a spacious, frame house whose lines are varied by gables, projecting bays, and an oriel window, and whose surfaces are enlivened by a variety of panelling. A nearly identical house, built on the same design, was erected in Riverdale fifteen years later. In 1905 Holden sold the house to William Wolfe Smith, who soon defaulted on his mortgage. In 1908, his creditors required the sale of the property, "improved by a fine residence, with seven rooms, bath, attic, etc., formerly occupied by William Wolfe Smith"..... in the best residential part of Hyattsville." From 1912 to 1981, this handsome house was the long term home of only two families. It is an outstanding example of a late Queen Anne style suburban cottage. Distinguished by fine decorative details, it probably served as a prototype for the other, slightly smaller, house of the same design in Riverdale. It is a noticeable landmark in the late Victorian residential area of Hyattsville.

Acreage: 10,500 square feet

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Holden Houseand/or common Sweeting House

## 2. Location

street & number 4112 Gallatin Street    not for publicationcity, town Hyattsville    vicinity of    congressional district 5state Maryland county Prince George's

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture	<u>  </u> museum
<u>  </u> building(s)	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial	<u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment	<u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government	<u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial	<u>  </u> transportation
	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<u>  </u> military	<u>  </u> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Lester Sweetingstreet & number 4112 Gallatin Street telephone no.:   city, town Hyattsville state and zip code MD 20781

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber #5413street & number Main Street folio 843city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Nonedate       federal    state    county    local   depository for survey records   city, town    state

## 7. Description

Survey No. p.G. #68-10-2

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Holden-Sweeting House is a two-and-one-half story frame house which stands on one of the lots of the town of Hyattsville. It is distinguished by fine decorative details: an oriel window, projecting bays and porches, and pedimented gables embellished with geometric panelling.

The house is basically square, with asymmetrical gables and bays varying the lines. The main facade is to the south, with entrance in the second bay through a panelled glazed door with two-light transom. In the first (west-most) bay is a small square window which lights the staircase. The easterly half of this principal south facade is filled with a two-story hip-roof projecting semi-octagonal bay; on each story the bay is lighted by three 1/1 double hung sash windows. Above the hip roof of the projecting bay, a steeply pitched gable dormer pierces the south plane of the roof; its gable end is decorated with geometric panelling, and lighted by two small single-pane windows.

The entire south facade is sheltered by a one-story hip-roof porch which wraps around and shelters part of the east facade; the porch is supported by heavy square posts on brick bases which form flattened-arch openings, four on the south facade and two on the east. The railing is composed of solid curved balusters. The westmost principal opening in the porch is surmounted by a steeply pitched pediment ornamented with applied geometric panelling. The high porch is approached by a flight of steps at this principal opening; it rests on brick piers with lattice infill.

The house is sheathed with German siding painted white. Windows are generally 1/1 double hung sash, with plain board surrounds and no shutters. The cornice is boxed and molded, and has a deep overhang. The roof is covered with green asbestos shingle, and there is a brick chimney roughly centered at the ridge. The high brick foundation encloses a full basement; entrance to the basement is through a bulkhead on the west side.

The wall surfaces are further varied by other details. In the southmost bay at second story level is a pyramidal roof oriel window. Its west face is lighted by two 1/1 windows, while its angled north and south facades each have one window. Above and below the windows, the oriel is decorated with panels of narrow vertical wainscoting.

There are panelled gables at third level on the east, north and west facades as well as the main south facade; with the exception of that on the north rear elevation, the gable ends are embellished with a variety of geometric panelling. In the first bay of the east facade, a panelled gable surmounts a second story sleeping porch which is highlighted by a railing of

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. P.G. #68-10-2

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

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turned balusters and a spindle frieze.. The porch is now enclosed with screen. There is a small gable dormer nearly centered in the east and west planes of the roof; each has a molded returned cornice and a single 1/1 window. There is a one-story projecting bay in the northmost bay of the east facade. A small partly-enclosed shed-roof porch forms a rear entrance to the kitchen in the west bay of the north rear facade; it is partly sided with two five-panel doors, and has a railing of turned balusters on the west side.

The interior of the house consists of four basic spaces. The main south entrance leads into a square stairhall in the southwest quadrant. The closed string staircase begins against the south wall, framed by two square panelled newel posts with applied molding; the stair turns and rises along the west wall, then turns again to the east. The three-run stair has turned balusters and panelled spandrel.

The stairhall leads northward into the kitchen in the northwest space. A spindle frieze forms a decorative grille between the stairhall and the kitchen. The kitchen has a decorative pressed metal ceiling.

A pair of five-panel double doors (which retract into pockets in the wall) leads eastward from stairhall to parlor. The parlor is warmed by a fireplace positioned diagonally in its northeast corner; the fireplace has a wooden mantel with tall, classical Revival style colonnettes. Another pair of pocket doors leads from the front parlor into the dining room in the northeast space. Door and window surrounds have multiband molding with bullseye corner blocks.

The house is situated on a town lot fronting directly on Gallatin Street, and bordered on the south by a low privet hedge. The lot is bounded on the west by an alley.



## 8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. #6840-2

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1897

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Holden-Sweeting House is an excellent example of a suburban cottage with abundant fine Queen Anne style decorative detail. It stands on part of two lots in Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville, platted in 1882.

By the middle of the nineteenth century, Christopher C. Hyatt had purchased property north of Bladensburg at the intersection of the old Washington Baltimore Turnpike and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. He built his brick mansion (no longer standing) on the west side of the railroad, and opened a store directly across the tracks. In 1859, Hyatt was appointed postmaster of the new crossroads community which thenceforth was to bear his name.<sup>1</sup>

In 1873, Hyatt had a section of his property surveyed and platted into building lots roughly 60 by 280 feet. This roughly 20-acre area was known as Hyatts Addition to Hyattsville. By 1878, the town was developing into a desirable place of residence for commuters to the Capital City. An 1878 account describes the new town as follows: "Hyattsville, on the Washington Branch of the Baltimore Ohio Railroad, is a beautiful village, tasteful houses in the modern style of architecture, ornamented with gardens and lawns, is largely indebted, for its prosperity, to Christopher C. Hyatt, ...it has gradually increased in beauty and prosperity until it stands as one of the foremost villages between Baltimore and Washington."<sup>2</sup>

In 1882, George Johnson and Louis Wine purchased 196 acres adjoining the original section of Hyattsville, and undertook the development of what they called "Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville." This section was surveyed and platted by Surveyor George W. Jackson in September 1882, to create approximately 100 building lots (roughly 50 by 150 feet each), two areas of parkland, and street names honoring the developers.<sup>3</sup>

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM  
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. P.G. #68-10-2

Section 8 Page 2

The subject house was built by Louis J. Holden, a bookbinder, who purchased part of lots 10 and 11 in Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville in 1896. Holden's relative, Frederick A. Holden, had in 1883 built a fine Stick-style frame dwelling on the lots (#32 and 33) which immediately adjoined lots 10 and 11 on the west.<sup>4</sup> Louis Holden built, in 1897, a very different style of dwelling, although of similar size and setting. Louis Holden's house was very likely built from a pattern-book design, although the design has not been identified. It is a spacious, basically square frame house whose lines are varied by gables, projecting bays, and an oriel window, and whose surfaces are enlivened by a variety of panelling. (A nearly identical house, built on the same design, was erected in Riverdale fifteen years later, cf. #68-4b.)

In 1905 Louis Holden and his wife sold their house to William Wolfe Smith. Smith borrowed money from the Hyattsville Building Association to finance his purchase, and soon defaulted on his payments. In 1908, his creditors required the sale of the property. Trustees for the sale announced that the property "improved by a fine residence, with seven rooms, bath, attic, etc., formerly occupied by William Wolfe Smith" would be sold, 6 July 1908, and that the property was "in good condition, and in the best residential part of Hyattsville."<sup>5</sup>

From 1912 to 1981, this handsome house was the long term home of only two families, that of Maurice H. B. Hoffman until 1952, and that of Waters Asay until 1981.<sup>6</sup> It is an outstanding example of a late Queen Anne style suburban cottage. Distinguished by fine decorative details, it probably served as a prototype for the other, slightly smaller, house of the same design in Riverdale. It is a noticeable landmark in the late Victorian residential area of Hyattsville.

Notes

1 Prince George's County Deeds JBB #1:280; JBB #2:481; JBB #4:113,337; CSM #3:476, 477.

2 G. M. Hopkins Atlas of Prince George's County, 1878, "Historical Sketch".

3 Prince George's County Deed JWB #1:244; Prince George's County Plat JWB #1:286, 1882.

4 Prince George's County Deed JWB #38:36; Census for Prince George's County, 1900; Correspondence of The Evening Star, Hyattsville, Maryland, November 3, 1887. cf. also Inventory form P.G. #68-17.

5 Prince George's County Deeds #20:589, #50:268; Prince George's County Equity #3537.

6 Prince George's County Deeds, #63:386; #1556:497.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #6840-2

Cf. Notes, Item #8

Cf. Chain of Title

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 10,500 square feetQuadrangle name Washington East, Section E

Tax Map #50, lots #10, 11

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting NorthingB 

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Zone Easting NorthingC 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historian

organization Historic Preservation Commission, c/o M-NCPPC date September 1987

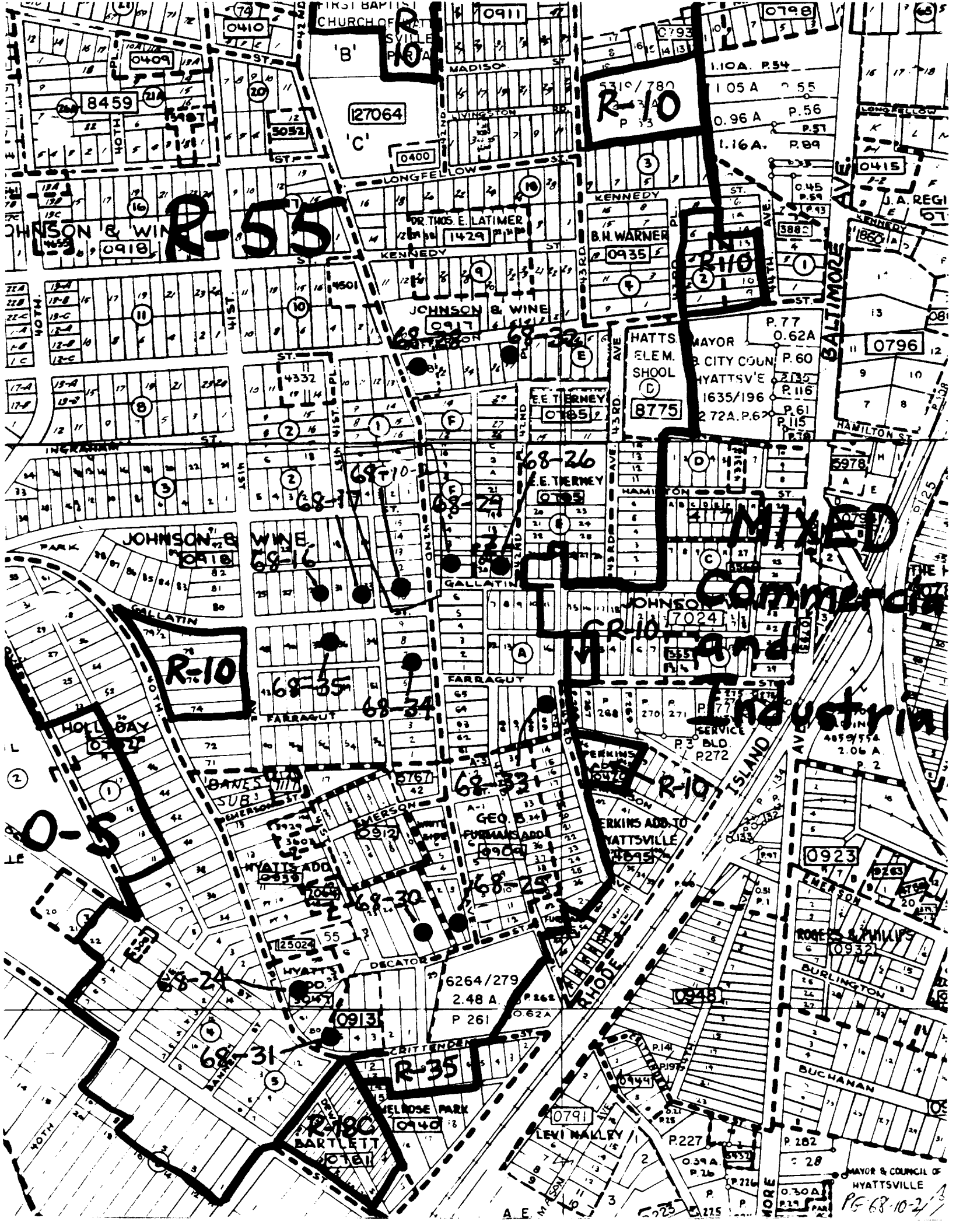
street &amp; number 4010 CAB telephone 301-952-3521

city or town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438



R-55

R-10

MIXED  
Commercial  
and  
Industrial

R-10

CR-10

R-10

R-35

R-18C

MAYOR & COUNCIL OF  
HYATTSVILLE  
PG 68-10-2

# WASHINGTON EAST







R-55

R-10

R-10

R-10

Mixed  
Commercial  
Industrial

R-10

R-35

R-18C

O-5



P.G. #68-10-2  
Holden-Sweeting House  
Prince George's County, Md.  
Susan G. Pearl  
April 1987  
South Elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist Trust, Annapolis, Md.





P. G. #68-10-2  
Holden-Sweeting House  
Prince George's County, Md.  
Susan G. Pearl  
April 1987  
Northeast 3/4 elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



P.G. #68-10-2  
Holden-Sweeting House  
Prince George's County, Md.  
Susan G. Pearl  
April 1987  
Northwest 3/4 elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist Trust, Annapolis, Md.



P.G. #68-10-2

Holden-Sweeting House

Prince George's County, Md.

Susan G. Pearl

April 1987

West elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



P.G. #68-10-2

Holden-Sweeting House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
February 1988  
South elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD





P.G. #68-10-2

Holden-Sweeting House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
February 1988  
West elevation with oriel window  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #68-10-2

Holden-Sweeting House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
February 1988  
Stairhall

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #68-10-2

Holden-Sweeting House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
February 1988  
Parlor mantel  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #68-10-2

Holden-Sweeting House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
February 1988  
Parlor doors  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD